TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE March 16, 2009

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Testimony Supporting

H. B. No. 6373

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE STATUTES

Senator Slossberg, Representative Spallone and distinguished members of the GAE committee, I am Robert Genuario and I am the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on HB 6373 An Act Concerning the Repeal of Certain Obsolete Statutes.

This bill is essentially technical in nature in that it simply removes a number of unnecessary or irrelevant laws that remain on the books long after they have served whatever useful purpose they once had. This measure should, in a small way, provide for less confusion, less clutter, and less government. Governor Rell has said that we not only need a leaner government but a less intrusive one as well. While all of these obsolete laws may not necessarily cost the state's taxpayers money, we can certainly make do with fewer laws.

Layers of laws have come at the expense of clarity and focus of state government. The sheer volume and rate at which laws are added reflects government's preference to add another layer instead of removing what is no longer needed. Such laws are a visible symptom of the excess weighing government down.